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# **Prayers for Courage,**

## **Arranged by a Lady**



# prayers for courage

Aunt Le

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## PRAYERS FOR COURAGE

Selected by a Lady from Prayer-book Classics

Prayer is a fight for the power to see and the courage to do the will of God. No man's life can altogether lack that struggle, if he is to achieve dependable integrity that cannot be bought or scared. The best guaranty of a character that is not for sale is this battlefield of prayer, where day by day the issue is settled that we shall live "not as pleasing men, but God who proveth our hearts" (I Thess. 2:4) (SOURCE:5)

## EDITOR'S PREFACE

Why read ancient prayers? Well, beyond the comfort of making the acquaintance of God's faithful whom we will someday meet in our glory everlasting, beyond the widening up of our own vocabulary so that phrases like "someday meet in our glory everlasting" go tripping off our tongue, it is a way to confound the devil.

C. S. Lewis put these words in the mouth of his fictional devil in *The Screwtape Letters*:

...and since we cannot deceive the whole human race all the time, it is most important thus to cut every generation off from all others; for where learning makes a free commerce between the ages there is always the danger that the characteristic errors of one may be corrected by the characteristic truths of another.

All these prayers, hymns and meditations were taken from old books available online for free. Check the sources at the end of this book for links to download the books from which these prayers were taken.

While you are there, look for other old books – confounding the devil is great fun.

## PRAYERS FOR COURAGE

GIVE me, Lord, I pray Thee, the grace and virtue of constancy, and unwearied endurance, that so I may receive with thanksgiving

whatever Thy hand may send of calamity or distress in this life and may bear it patiently—Amen. (SOURCE:14)

Grant unto us, almighty God, in all times of sore distress, the comfort of the forgiveness of our sins. In time of darkness give us blessed hope, in time of sickness of body give us quiet courage; and when the heart is bowed down, and the soul is very heavy, and life is a burden, and pleasure a weariness, and the sun is too bright, and life too mirthful, then may that Spirit, the Spirit of the Comforter, come upon us, and after our darkness may there be the clear shining of the heavenly light; that so, being uplifted again by Thy mercy, we may pass on through this our mortal life with quiet courage, patient hope, and unshaken trust, hoping through Thy loving-kindness and tender mercy to be delivered from death into the large life of the eternal years. Hear us of Thy mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

LORD, behold our family here assembled. We thank Thee for this place in which we dwell; for the love that unites us; for the peace accorded us this day; for the hope with which we expect the morrow; for the health, the work, the food, and the bright skies, that make our lives delightful; for our friends in all parts of the earth, and our friendly helpers in this foreign isle. Let peace abound in our small company.

Purge out of every heart the lurking grudge. Give us grace and strength to forbear and to persevere. Offenders, give us the grace to accept and to forgive offenders. Forgetful ourselves, help us to bear cheerfully the forgetfulness of others. Give us courage and gaiety and the quiet mind. Spare to us our friends, soften to us our enemies.

Bless us, if it may be, in all our innocent endeavours. If it may not, give us the strength to encounter that which is to come, that we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune, and, down to the gates of death, loyal and loving one to another. As the clay to the potter, as the windmill to the wind, as children of their sire, we beseech of Thee this help and

mercy for Christ's sake. (SOURCE:18)

IN THE SENATE, Wednesday, February 10, 1904. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing; but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.

FATHER Almighty, our requests are first for courage in every period of calamity or difficulty, the courage of the children of the living God. Give us strength from Thine own omnipotence that we may do our duty when we know what our duty is.

We ask from Thee that Thou wilt teach us, as a father teaches his children, what we can do this day in Thine infinite service. We ask for purity, for peace, that we may be pure as Thou art pure, and that we may know what is the peace of God. We ask Thee that we may be gentle and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without variance and without hypocrisy, knowing that Thou wilt give us what we really need, and that if we seek it with all our heart and all our soul and all our mind and all our strength. Thou art at hand.

And, Father, we bring Thee our personal sorrows and difficulties and trials. We ask Thee to be by the bedside of those whom we love, that Thou wilt be with the sick and those who minister to them, to give wisdom to their love and hope and endeavor to give faith and perseverance in whatever trial.

Be with the rulers of the world, with those who are at war with each other, that they may know the peace of God ; with all people, with all rulers, that they may seek to enter into thy kingdom of love and purity and peace, that Thy kingdom may come and Thy will be done. We ask it in Christ Jesus. (SOURCE:7)

I know oh Lord, thou wilt do Thy part towards me, as I, through Thy grace, desire to do my part towards Thee. I know well Thou canst never forsake those who seek Thee, nor disappoint those who trust Thee. Yet I know too, the more I pray for Thy protection, the

more surely and fully I shall have it. And therefore now I cry out to Thee, and entreat Thee, first that Thou wouldest keep me from myself, and from following any will but Thine. Next, I beg of Thee that, in Thine infinite compassion, Thou wouldest temper Thy will to me. Visit me not, O my loving Lord—if it be not wrong so to pray,—visit me not with those trying visitations which saints alone can bear! Pity my weakness, and lead me heavenwards in a safe and tranquil course. Still I leave all in Thy hands,—only, if Thou shalt bring heavier trials on me, give me more grace, flood me with the fulness of Thy strength and consolation—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

O God, the Might of all them that put their trust in Thee, grant that we may be more than conquerors over all that make war upon our souls, and, in the end, may enter into perfect peace in Thy presence.—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

FOR A HEROIC TEMPER. GRANT, O Lord, as Thou hast cast my lot in a fair ground, that I may show forth contentment by rejoicing in the privileges with which Thou hast strewn my path, and by using to the full my opportunities for service.

In hours of hardship, preserve me from self-pity and endow me with the warrior's mind, that even in the heat of battle I may be inspired with the sense of vocation and win the peace of the victor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If in life's battle I am wounded or tottering, pour into my wounds the balm of hope and imbue me with courage undaunted to arise and continue the strife. Amen. (SOURCE:12)

Meditation: Courage is an achievement of the will motivated by right and love.

THE sources of the courage which in the mass of men will stand all kinds of danger are not to be found only in physical, but much more in moral and spiritual training. Courage is of the first importance for life. It is well to get it well into our being; and one of the first things to do, in order to have it at all times and in all trials, is to get

rid of the notion that it is only a physical quality, and to understand that it can be won by the will when the will toward it is directed by noble motives in accordance with the claims on us of Right and Love.

There are sure to be hours in life when the whole success of all whom we lead—it matters little whether we only lead our own household or a whole army—rests on our facing danger boldly. We must accustom ourselves to realize that; and then the importance of our courage to others must so dwell upon our minds that, when the hour of danger comes, we shall be able, from the force of the high motive of our courage being the salvation of others, to master our trembling nerves, if we are of that temperament; to divide, as it were, our soul from our body; and to conquer the nervous thrill of the body by the high passion of the soul.

You remember the story told of Henri IV.; it is a good illustration. He was naturally afraid in danger, and when he first went into battle at the siege of Cahors his body shook all over with fear. Then he was heard to say: “Vile carcass! thou tremblest. But thou wouldst tremble ten times more if thou knewest where I am going to take thee.”

And he rushed forward twenty yards ahead of his men, and his ax was the first to strike the gates. Lift the soul above the body; it is the secret of courage. (SOURCE:12)

ALMIGHTY God, Lord of the storm and of the calm, the vexed sea and the quiet haven, of day and of night, of life and of death,—grant unto us so to have our hearts stayed upon Thy faithfulness, Thine unchangingness and love, that, whatsoever betide us, however black the cloud or dark the night, with quiet faith trusting in Thee, we may look upon Thee with untroubled eye, and walking in lowliness towards Thee, and in lovingness towards one another, abide all storms and troubles of this mortal life, beseeching Thee that they may turn to the soul’s true good. We ask it for Thy mercy’s sake, shown in Jesus Christ our Lord—Amen. (SOURCE:14)



ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the Comfort of the sad, the Strength of sufferers, let the prayers of those that cry out of any tribulation come unto Thee; that all may rejoice to find that Thy mercy is present with them in their afflictions; through Jesus Christ our Lord—Amen. (SOURCE:14)

Of the sadness and dread which Jesus endured for our sakes BLESS Thee, and give thanks to Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, Maker and Redeemer of all the faithful, for the sad beginning of Thy most bitter Passion ; for the exceeding distress of Thy soul; for the anxiety and dread, which, in the weakness of Thy human Nature, taken upon Thee of Thy own free will for our sakes, Thou didst feel, when, as the hour of Thy betrayal drew nigh. Thou didst begin to be fearful and very sad. Nor didst Thou think shame of confessing this sadness to Thy disciples, for Thou saidst: “My soul is sorrowful even unto death.” O wondrous dispensation of God ! Thou, the Lord of all power, Who but a short while since hadst given strength to Thy disciples for the strife, dost now bear Thyself as One Who is weak, and wanting in strength and courage.

And all this Thou didst undergo in order the more perfectly to comfort us in weakness and faintheartedness, lest perchance some one of us, when sorely tempted, should despair of pardon or salvation ; for if such an one should feel himself less cheerful than he should be under suffering, less brave than he should be, in enduring trials of the flesh, he may still be able to say that which Thou art recorded to have said: “Nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt.”

O most loving Jesus, my only hope in every trouble and distress, make me, I pray Thee, to ponder with a heart full of compassion, the sorrowful beginning of this Thy blessed Passion, and from this sad prelude to go on by degrees to meditate upon the still more bitter parts of it, that so I may be able, from each several part, to gather for the wounds of my soul some healing medicine.

Grant that I may bear with patient courage, for the glory of Thy Name, whatever troubles may be awaiting me, that I may never

fall into despair, no matter how severe the tribulation may be, but may in all things resign myself to the good pleasure of Thy Divine Providence. (SOURCE:10)

Set my heart on fire with the love of Thee, most loving Father, and then to do Thy will, and to obey Thy commandments, will not be grievous to me. For to him that loveth, nothing is difficult, nothing is impossible ; because love is stronger than death. Oh, may love fill and rule my heart. For then there will spring up and be cherished between Thee and me a likeness of character, and union of will, so that I may choose and refuse what Thou dost. May Thy will be done in me and by me forever—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

O pour out a spirit of serious repentance and reformation upon the whole nation; to heal the distempers of our souls, to curb the disorders of our lives, and to recover the decayed power of godliness in the land; and so prepare and dispose us not only for thy temporal mercies, but for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life. Help us so to turn from the evil of our ways, that thou mayest turn from the fierceness of thy wrath, and cause thy anger towards us to cease. O that we may fear the rod, and who has appointed it.

And so prepare to meet thee, our God, in the way of thy judgments, that the God of peace may think thoughts of peace to us, and not of evil; and to give us an unexpected end, and the desired issue, of all our fears and dangers.

Thou canst show us great and mighty things, which we know not, and exceed all our expectations, as- well as our deservings, by thy bountiful favours: and though thou mightest make us know the worth of slighted mercies, by their want, and deprive us of all the good, which we have so little improved, and so greatly abused; yet O how many promises of thy word,, and what frequent experience, which we have had of thy mercy, in time of our need, do encourage us still with hope to look unto thee, our God, and to wait for the salvation of the Lord! O how long, in all our provocations, hast thou spared us! And how often, in our distresses, sent wonderful

redemption to us!

And to thee, who hast helped and delivered, in time past, do we look still for help and deliverance. O our God, be thou pleased to help and deliver us, for the glory of that mercy which first made us thy people, and still has owned us for thy peculiar care. O do not abhor us, nor forsake us for thy name's sake; but be jealous for thy land, and pity thy people. Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts, and cause thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.

Either in mercy turn away the evils from us; or prepare us for them, and support us under them, and bring us happily out of them; that we may not sink and perish in them, but find spiritual good, by temporal evils; and find the light momentary afflictions to work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; and all things concurring to promote our grace and our peace with God, through Jesus Christ. And though thou shouldst feed us with bread of adversity, and water of affliction, yet let not our teachers be removed; nor bring us under a famine of the word of the Lord; nor give us over to the formality of a lifeless profession; under all the means of grace, to send leanness into our soul. Though thou permit the floods and storms to arise and increase, yet fortify us so by thy grace, that we may not be moved by any of those afflictions, so as to turn the blessed advantage of suffering for thee into an occasion of falling from thee.

O help us, Lord, to rid our hands and our hearts of all the accursed things that provoke thy wrath and indignation against us. And let us wisely consider of thy doings, and know the time of our visitation, and hearken to the calls, and take the warnings, and improve the means and mercies vouchsafed to us, while we have them; and follow the conduct of thy good providence, and comply with all thy gracious methods used, to reclaim us from our sins, and to reform our lives, and save our souls; that all may not be in vain to us, but at least effect the purpose of thy saving mercy upon us; to deliver us from the evils to come, and to set us safe into the hands of Jesus

Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour, Amen. (SOURCE:1)

LORD, enlighten us to see the beam that is in our own eye, and blind us to the mote that is in our brother's. Let us feel our offences with our hands, make them great and bright before us like the sun, make us eat them and drink them for our diet. Blind us to the offences of our beloved, cleanse them from our memories, take them out of our mouths for ever. Let all here before Thee carry and measure with the false balances of love, and be in their own eyes and in all conjunctures the most guilty.

Help us at the same time with the grace of courage, that we be none of us cast down when we sit lamenting amid the ruins of our happiness or our integrity: touch us with fire from the altar, that we may be up and doing to rebuild our city: in the name and by the method of him in whose words of prayer we now conclude. (SOURCE:18)

A PRAYER FOR OUR ENEMIES. O God, we beseech Thee, forgive and pardon our enemies, and give us that measure of Thy grace, that for their hatred we may love them; for their cursing we may bless them: for their injury we may do them good; and for their persecution we may pray for them. They have laid a net for our steps, and they have digged a pit before us; Lord, we desire not that they themselves should fall into the midst of these, but we beseech Thee keep us out of them, and deliver, establish, bless and prosper us for Thy mercy's sake in Jesus Christ our Saviour, to whom with Thee and the Holy Spirit, we desire to consecrate ourselves and our country, now and forever, imploring Thee to be our God, and to make us Thy people. Amen. (SOURCE:23)

Oh Lord, strengthen and support, I entreat Thee, all persons unjustly accused or underrated. Comfort them by the ever-present thought that Thou knowest the whole truth, and wilt in Thine own good time make their righteousness as clear as the light Give them grace to pray for such as do them wrong, and hear and bless them when they pray—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

A Prayer under Infamy and Disgrace.[Abridged] Though I am reproached for the name of Christ, and persecuted for righteousness sake, I shall not droop under the censures and scorns of men, if I can but find acceptance and favour in thy sight. It is not men's applause or reproach that can make us happy or miserable ; though we have their good opinion and commendation, what are we the better, if we have made thee our enemy ? And though we are detested by them, what are we the worse, if only we have approved ourselves to thee our God ?

Thy word, O Lord, teaches us, that if we suffer as Christians, we should not be ashamed, but glorify thee on this behalf. And thine apostles, who were made as the filth of the world and the off-scouring of all things, rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Jesus. Though, therefore, I pass through evil report, as well as good report, let me account it but a small thing to be judged of man's judgment. And if thou, my God, wilt have me to be low in the world, yea, even a hissing and proverb of reproach, let me not be so much concerned to avoid the disgrace, as to cut off all just occasion for it, and to be more careful and diligent in seeking the honour that cometh of God.

If men speak evil of what they understand not, if perverse scoffers, walking after their own lusts, oppose and deride me, O let not thy holy religion ever sink in my estimation on account of their hard speeches or cruel usage ; but enable me to look unto Jesus, the Lord of glory, who was despised and rejected by those whom he came to save; and let me little regard what indignities they cast on me, if only I may be thereby rendered more conformable to his blessed image.

Enable me to follow him in meekness and patience : and let my eyes be ever towards him as the author and the finisher of my faith; who, having himself despised and surmounted the shame, now sitteth on the right hand of the Majesty on high ; from whence he shall quickly come, in all the glory of his Father, to judge the world: to

whose name be all blessing and praise, world without end. Amen.  
(SOURCE:9)

IN THEE, O Lord God, I place my whole hope and refuge; on Thee I rest — all my tribulation and anguish; for I find all to be weak and inconstant, whatsoever I behold out of Thee. For many friends cannot profit, nor strong helpers assist, nor the books of the learned afford comfort, nor any place, however retired and lovely, give shelter, unless Thou Thyself dost assist, strengthen, console, instruct and guard us. For all things that seem to belong to the attainment of peace and felicity, without Thee, are nothing, and do bring in truth no felicity at all. Thou therefore art the Fountain of all that is good, and to hope in Thee above all things, is the strongest comfort of Thy servants. To Thee, therefore, do I lift up mine eyes; in Thee, my God, the Father of mercies, do I put my trust—Amen. (SOURCE:14)

West Point Cadet Prayer. O God, our Father, Thou Searcher of men's hearts, help us to draw near to Thee in sincerity and truth. May our religion be filled with gladness, and may our worship of Thee be natural.

Strengthen and increase our admiration for honest dealing and clean thinking, and suffer not our hatred of hypocrisy and pretence ever to diminish. Encourage us in our endeavor to live above the common level of life. Make us to choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong, and never to be content with a half-truth when the whole can be won.

Endow us with courage that is born of loyalty to all that is noble and worthy, that scorns compromise with vice and injustice and knows no fear when truth and right are in jeopardy.

Guard us against flippancy and irreverence in the sacred things of life. Grant us new ties of friendship and new opportunities of service. Kindle our hearts in fellowship with those of a cheerful countenance, and soften our hearts with sympathy for those who sorrow and suffer.

Help us, in our work and in our play, to keep ourselves physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight. All of which we ask in the name of the Great Friend and Master of men. Amen. (SOURCE:25)

O God, our heavenly Father, we thy children come now to Thy feet with our supplications. We cannot live without Thy blessing. Life is too hard for us and duty is too large. We get discouraged, and our feeble hands hang down. We come to Thee with our weakness, asking Thee for strength. Help us always to be of good cheer. Let us not be disheartened by difficulties. Let us never doubt Thy love or any of Thy promises.

Give us grace to be encouragers of others, never discouragers. Let us not go about with sadness or fear among men, but may we be a benediction to every one we meet, always making life easier, never harder, for those who come within our influence. Help us to be as Christ to others, that they may see something of His love in our lives and learn to love Him in us. We beseech Thee to hear us, to receive our prayer, and to forgive our sins, for Jesus Christ's sake—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

Meditation: Faith can cope with every fear. It is a pathetic reflection that all around us, even in our own homes and close to our hearts, there are those who lead their lives under the burden of an unspoken fear.

These unhappy souls learn to keep silence, because when they have spoken they have been met only with ridicule or misunderstanding; and the very suppression of their misery leads to its intensification and fixes it more firmly in the subconscious. Much may be done by analyzing the fear, by laying bare its hidden roots, by seeing how it took origin in the mind.

We fear the unknown; but half our fear has vanished when the unknown has been forced to give up its secret.

But if a genuinely regenerative force is to enter the life and make

peace and poise a permanent possession, something more is needed. Faith in the goodness of life, in the creative spirit of the universe, in the honor of men and in the virtue of women, in the powers of the human soul, and, if by grace of Heaven we can attain to it, faith in a destiny rich in boundless possibility, is the sovereign cure for this saddest distemper of the soul.

No crisis is too great, no agony is too poignant, no upheaval of foundations of existence too overwhelming for the constraining, steadying and uplifting energies of a moral trust.

One sometimes imagines oneself in a situation of terrible strain and stress, amid the terrors of shipwreck, or in the inferno of the modern battle-field, where the relentless forces of nature or the cruel engines of human ingenuity make havoc of youth, affection, beauty, the rich promise of the future as well as the garnered harvests of the past, and the doubt arises unbidden—What would faith in the invisible order of realities avail against the overpowering might of the immediate present?

It suffices us to reply that faith is not merely for the sunshine, but also for the darkness; not only for the quiet levels of our existence, but also for the wrack of tempest and the last delirium of despair. (SOURCE:12)

WASHINGTON'S PRAYER. After thanking the Creator for his many mercies, and asking a blessing on the inhabitants of the house, he continued, And now, almighty Father, if it is thy holy will, that we shall obtain a place and a name among the nations of the earth, grant that we may be enabled to show our gratitude for thy goodness, by our endeavours to fear and obey thee. Bless us with wisdom in our councils, success in battle, and let all our victories be tempered with humanity. Endow also our enemies with enlightened minds, that they may become sensible of their injustice, and willing to restore our liberty and peace. Grant the petition of thy servant for the sake of Him whom thou hast called thy Beloved Son; nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done. Amen. (SOURCE:13)



The Soldier's Prayer in Camp. O Eternal God, who by Thy unsearchable wisdom, by Thy Almighty power and secret providence, dost determine the issues of human counsels, the events of war and the return of victory and peace, let the light of Thy countenance, and the blessed influences of Thy mercy, be once more shed upon this afflicted land. Pity the evils which we suffer under the power and tyranny of war, and although we acknowledge Thy justice in our sufferings and adore Thee in thy judgments, yet we beseech Thee to hearken to our prayers and provide a remedy for our calamities.

Let not the defenders of a righteous cause go away ashamed, nor their counsels' be brought to nought. Look with compassion upon our infirmities and remember not our sins, but support us with Thy staff, lift us up with Thy hand, and refresh us with Thy presence. And if a threatening cloud should still overshadow us, illuminate our minds with divine truth, that with the eye of faith and hope we may see beyond it; catching a glimpse of those mercies which in Thy secret providence and adorable wisdom Thou mayest still vouchsafe to Thy unworthy servants amidst the saddening scenes and hardships of war.

Give us grace and strength diligently to do our duty and cheerfully to submit to Thy will; and as we do put our whole trust and confidence in Thy mercy, and have laid up all our hopes in Thy bosom, let us never be put to shame or confusion before our enemies: but as Thine are the strength and the power, O Lord of Hosts, do Thou make bare Thy mighty arm and give us the victory.

Place a guard of angels, O Lord, about the Commander-in-chief, and uphold him with the defence of Thy right hand, that no unhallowed arm may do him violence; support him in all his dangers and trials, and give to all under his orders the spirit of confidence and obedience. Bless all the subordinate officers and confederates under his command. Direct their counsels, govern their actions, unite their hearts and strengthen their hands. Inspire all in the

army with ready submission to lawful authority, with a sense of justice and integrity in all their dealings; with courage to resist and overcome the furiousness of our enemies; with compassion to spare the vanquished, and with a ready will to protect the oppressed; that approving themselves to Thee, the Almighty Ruler and Sovereign Disposer of all things, they may receive a full reward for their fidelity and obedience, and, at last, the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen. (SOURCE:4)

All things work together for good to them that love God. Rom. viii, 28. Providential Overruling. My soul, be still ! thou art in the hands of thy covenant God. Were these strange vicissitudes in thy history the result of accident, or chance, thou mightest well be overwhelmed but “all things” and this thing (be what it may) which may be now disquieting thee is one of these “all things” that are so working mysteriously for thy good. (SOURCE:16)

Previous to his expedition into France against the French king, in 1544, Henry VIII. testified his confidence in the wisdom and discretion of Katharine, by appointing her to govern the realm in his absence, under the title of queen regent. Several queen consorts of England have exercised vice-regal power, but Katharine Parr was the first and only one upon whom the title was regularly and solemnly conferred, and who reigned herself as such, Katharine, the Queen Regent.

In view of the responsibilities of her new office, she composed the following prayer for her husband and the success of the English negotiations and arms:

“O, Almighty God, and Lord of which by thy angels thereunto appointed doth minister both war and peace, who didst give unto David both courage and strength, being but a little one, unversed and inexperienced in the feats of war, with his sling to set upon and overthrow the great huge Goliath, our cause now being just, and being enforced to enter into war and battle, we most humbly beseech Thee, O Lord God of hosts, so to turn the hearts of our

enemies to the desire of peace, that no Christian blood be spilt.

“Or else grant, O Lord, that with small effusion of blood, and little damage of innocents, we may to thy glory obtain victory, and that the wars being soon ended, we may all with one heart and mind, knit together in concord and unity, laud and praise Thee, who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.”

“O Lord God of Hosts, God of battles! Remember thy servant now. In this need and struggle appear in thy power, and prosper the right and rebuke the wrong. All our help and hope are in Thee. O God of Hosts! God of battles! be gracious unto us, and give courage to these men; give success to our arms; give victory to our country’s cause. Amen.” (SOURCE:2)

For Perseverance. O eternal God, -who seest my weakness, and knowest the number and strength of the temptations against which I have to struggle; leave me not to myself, but cover Thou my head in the day of battle, and in all spiritual combats make me more than conqueror through Him that loved me. O let no terrors or flatteries, either of the world, or my own flesh, ever draw me from my obedience to Thee; but grant that I may continue steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord; and, by patient continuance in well doing, seek, and at last obtain, glory, and honor, and immortality, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (SOURCE:16)

O Lord, our Guide even unto death, grant us, I pray I thee, grace to follow Thee whithersoever Thou goest. In little daily duties to which Thou callest us, bow down our wills to simple obedience, patience under pain or provocation, strict truthfulness of word and manner, humility, kindness : in great acts of duty or perfection if Thou shouldest call us to them, uplift us to self-sacrifice, heroic courage, laying down of life for Thy Truth’s sake or for a brother—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

HYMN. God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform:  
He plants His footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm. Deep

in unfathomable mines Of never-failing skill, He treasures up His bright designs, And works His sovereign will. Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take: The clouds ye so much dread Are big with mercy, and shall break In blessings on your head. Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, But trust Him for His grace: Behind a frowning Providence He hides a smiling face. His purposes will ripen fast, Unfolding every hour; The bud may have a bitter taste, But sweet will be the flower. Blind unbelief is sure to err. And scan His works in vain. God is His own interpreter, And He will make it plain. (SOURCE:3)

Ant. The Lord of hosts is with us : the God of Jacob is our refuge. PSALM XLVI. God is our hope and strength : a very present help in trouble. Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved : and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea. Though the waters thereof rage and swell: and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.

Repeat Antiphon all together. Ant. The Lord of hosts is with us : the God of Jacob is our refuge. The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God : the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest. God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed : God shall help her, and that right early. The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved : but God hath shewed his voice, and the earth shall melt away. Repeat Antiphon all together. Ant. The Lord of hosts is with us : the God of Jacob is our refuge. O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord : what destruction he hath brought upon the earth. He maketh wars to cease in all the world : he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder, and burneth the chariots in the fire. . . Be still then, and know that I am God : I would be exalted among the heathen, and I will be exalted in the earth. Repeat Antiphon all together. Ant. The Lord of hosts is with us : the God of Jacob is our refuge. Thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle. Thou shalt throw down mine enemies under me.

Let us pray. O Lord God of hosts, bless our sailors and soldiers ; keep

them pure and loyal amid all their temptations ; and grant that all their operations may tend to peace on earth : that they may fight nobly in their earthly warfare, and may maintain steadfastly the Christian conflict against sin, the world, and the devil, and triumph therein by thy victorious might, O Lord, thou God of hosts. Amen. (SOURCE:23)

A PRAYER FOR OUR ARMIES. Almighty God, whose Providence watcheth over all things, and in whose hands is the disposal of all events, we look up to Thee for Thy protection and blessing amidst the apparent and great dangers with which we are encompassed. Thou hast, in Thy wisdom, permitted us to be threatened with the many evils of an unnatural and destructive war. Save us, we beseech Thee, from the hands of our enemies.

Watch over our fathers, and brothers, and sons, who, trusting in Thy defence and in the righteousness of our cause, have gone forth to the service of their country. May their lives be precious in Thy sight. Preserve them from all the dangers to which they may be exposed. Enable them successfully to perform their duty to Thee and to their country, and do Thou, in Thine infinite wisdom and power, so overrule events, and so dispose the hearts of all engaged in this painful struggle, that it may soon end in peace and brotherly love, and lead not only to the safety, honor and welfare of our Confederate States, but to the good of Thy people, and the glory of Thy great name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Charleston, S. C, Fast Day, June 13 A.D. 1861. (SOURCE:24)

Am I a soldier of the cross, A follower of the Lamb ?... And shall I fear to own His cause Or blush to speak His name? Must I be carried to the skies On flowery beds of ease, While others fought to win the prize, And sailed through bloody seas ? Are there no foes for me to face? Must I not stem the flood? Is this vile world a friend to grace, To help me on to God? Sure I must fight, if I would reign: Increase my courage, Lord! I'll bear the toil, endure the pain, Supported by Thy Word. Thy saints, in all this glorious war, Shall

conquer, though they die; They see the triumph from afar With faith's discerning eye. When that illustrious day shall rise And all Thine armies shine In robes of victory through the skies, The glory shall be Thine. (SOURCE:3)

O LORD, I fling myself with all my weakness and misery into Thy ever-open arms. I know that I am ignorant and much mistaken about myself. Thou, who seest in very truth, look mercifully on me. Lay Thy healing hand upon my wounds. Pour the life-giving balm of Thy love into my heart. Do for me what I have not the courage to do for myself. Save me in spite of myself.

May I be Thine; wholly Thine, and, at all costs, Thine. In humiliation, in poverty, in suffering, in self-abnegation, Thine. Thine in the way Thou knowest to be most fitting, in order that Thou mightest be now and ever mine. Thou art my Strength and my Redeemer. I am Thy poor little creature, dependent on Thy merciful charity alone —Amen. (SOURCE:14)

FOR COURAGE IN BEREAVEMENT. O GOD, Thou bindest me to life by sweet, tender ties—father, mother, brother, sister, husband, wife, son, daughter, lover, friend. All the tendrils of my heart are twined around them; all my purposes revolve about them; all my success is measured by their joy.

Thou takest them away. Then I am tempted to withdraw altogether from the world, in hopeless dejection, a burden to myself and a sorrow to my remaining friends, or hide myself in foreign lands, or plunge madly into meaningless activities, vainly striving to run away from the grief I can never escape.

Make me strong to resist this cowardice. Forbid that I should idly accept my dear one's mortality. In the hour of sore bereavement may I summon the great resources of the soul—memory, imagination, faith, hope, love.

May I gratefully recall all that my beloved one was to me; all that he stood for in the world. May I live even more constantly in the

companionship of his spirit; may I carry out in the old spheres in which we together moved, so much of his purpose as I can. May I be kind to the friends he loved; devoted to the community in which he lived; loyal to the causes which he served. Thus in my life may he still live on, to my own comfort, and the welfare of the world. Amen. (SOURCE:12)

FOR our absent loved ones we implore thy loving-kindness. Keep them in life, keep them in growing honour; and for us, grant that we remain worthy of their love. For Christ's sake, let not our beloved blush for us, nor we for them. Grant us but that, and grant us courage to endure lesser ills unshaken, and to accept death, loss, and disappointment as it were straws upon the tide of life. (SOURCE:18)

A great sorrow recasts a soul; it either draws it nearer to the friend whose intimacy must elevate it, or drives it into the far cold space of rebellion and despair. (SOURCE:15)

Holy Father, whose chosen way of manifesting Thyself to Thy children is by the discipline of trial and pain, we rejoice that we can turn to Thee in the midst of great anxiety, and commit all our troubles to Thy sure help. As Thou art with us in the sunlight, Oh, be Thou with us in the cloud. In the path by which Thou guidest us, though it be through desert and stormy sea, suffer not our faith to fail, but sustain us by Thy near presence, and let the comforts which are in Jesus Christ fill our hearts with peace. And, O God, grant that the fiery trial which trieth us may not be in vain, but may lead us to a cheerful courage, and a holy patience; and let patience have her perfect work, that we may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing, wholly consecrate to Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

Almighty God! Our heavenly Father, who hast given us in Thy Son Jesus Christ a fountain of life, which, springing up within us, can make all things new, we thank Thee for the deeper meaning which He gives to life,—for the quickened sense of duty, the faith under sorrow, the immortal hopes, which we owe to Him. And we

pray that His divine instructions may be so received by us with grateful hearts, that no resistance of ours may hinder His freely working within us a miracle as when He changed the water into wine. In the power of His Spirit, may our griefs be transformed into consolations,—our infirmities into strength to do well,—our sins into repentance, our fainting and halting spirits into an heavenly mind; and, finally, the doubts, the discouragements, the trials, of this earthly life, into the full assurance and unclouded bliss of an eternal life with Thee, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

O Almighty Creator of my soul, and perfect Pattern of my life, I praise Thee, and magnify Thee for ever, for Thy boundless resignation ; and for Thy complete conquest of Thy Own Will, and of all Thy feelings as a Man, which would have made Thee shrink from pain and death. I praise and magnify Thee for having at once, without the least wavering, when the hour of Thy Passion was at hand, resigned Thyself freely and willingly to Thy Father's Will, saying, "Father, not my will, but Thine, be done." Words indeed these were, with which Thou didst magnify Thy Heavenly Father's glory: didst heap further benefits upon us; didst yet more firmly tread the devil under foot; and didst show forth, to those who believe in Thee, more plainly than ever before, the model of perfection, the ensign of salvation, and the path of the highest virtue.

O adorable Jesus, Thou Whose example we must ever keep before us, grant, I most earnestly beseech Thee, that I may obtain the fruit of this Thy thrice-repeated prayer, and that in the life in Religion which I have taken upon myself, I may strive to imitate the example of Thy self-denial.

Give me grace manfully to bring into subjection to the spirit the stubbornness of my flesh; to crush all shrinking from bodily pain; to use prayer more often than before ; to be ever watchful therein; to trust lovingly to Thee for help; to leave confidently in Thy hands



the issue of all my undertakings; utterly to renounce my own will in everything; and to be always ready courageously to bear whatever troubles may come upon me. (SOURCE:10)

BE FERVENT IN SPIRIT. In order to this purpose, I shall offer to you some considerations, which I beg you to make trial of, as necessary means to keep this holy fire bright in your minds.

The Exercise of God's presence. When a Soldier engages his enemy in the presence of his Prince, he fights with greater courage and bravery. When a Christian prays, converses, or follows his calling, with an actual sense that God sees him, and is privy to all his thoughts, it is impossible he should be negligent or unconcerned. No; the sense of God's all-seeing eye animates him with care and diligence, and with this prospect he endeavours to do every thing that may please him best.

If you would be secure of a general and effectual means to pray with devotion, to converse with reserve, to follow your profession with diligence, and to govern your passions, and to resist the temptations that assault you; remember always that God is present with you; endeavour to preserve the sense of it upon your mind, and accustom yourself to the exercise of it. And if, when you have any occasion offered of practising any virtue, or mortifying any passion, you have not a sense of God's presence upon your mind, immediately reflect upon it and place God before you, and you will quickly experience that fervour of spirit, and that readiness of mind, to serve God upon all occasions, which is so important in our spiritual life. (SOURCE:19)

FOR VICTORY IN THE BATTLE OF LIFE. MASTER of all things, Lord of all, Who hast so ordered it that life from the beginning shall be a struggle throughout the course, and even to the end, so guide and order that struggle within us that at last what is good in us may conquer and all evil be overcome, that all things may be brought into harmony and God may be all in all. So do Thou guide and govern us, that every day, whatsoever betide us, some gain to

better things, some more blessed joy in higher things may be ours, that so we, though but weaklings, may yet, God-guided, go from strength to strength, until at last, delivered from that burden of the flesh through which comes so much struggling, we may enter into the land of harmony and of eternal peace. Hear us, of Thy mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (SOURCE:12)

O LORD, God, Holy Father, be Thou blessed both now and for evermore, because as Thou wilt, so is it done, and what Thou doest is good. My soul is sorrowful, sometimes, even unto tears; sometimes also my spirit is disquieted by reason of impending sufferings. I long after the joy of Thy peace, the peace of Thy children I earnestly crave. If Thou give peace, if Thou pour into me holy joy, the soul of Thy servant shall be full of melody, and shall become devout in Thy praise. Make me a dutiful and humble disciple (as Thou art wont to be kind), that I may be ever ready to go, if Thou dost but beckon to me.

Thou knowest what is expedient for my spiritual progress, and how greatly tribulation serves to scour off the rust of sins; do with me according to Thy desired good pleasure—Amen. (SOURCE:14)

LET me lie still in suffering, dear Christ, and think of Thee. Fix my mind on Thy Cross and Passion, and make me know the bliss of being Thy companion in pain. And O, when it is hard to be calm and quiet, come Thou very, very near, and speak peace to my soul. So shall my grief be turned to joy and my heaviness to cheer—Amen. (SOURCE:14)

Abide with me! fast falls the eventide; The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide! When other helpers fail, and comforts flee. Help of the helpless O abide with me' Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away; Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me! Not a brief glance I beg, a passing word, But as Thou dwell'st with Thy disciples Lord: Familiar, condescending, patient, free, Come, not to sojourn, but abide with me. Come not in terrors as the King of kings,

But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings; Tears for all woes, a heart for every plea; O Friend of sinners, thus abide with me! Thou on my head in early youth didst smile. And, though rebellious and perverse meanwhile. Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee: On to the close, O Lord, abide with me! I need Thy presence every passing hour: What but Thy grace can foil the Tempter's power? Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me! I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless: Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, if Thou abide with me! Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes, Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies: Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me! (SOURCE:3)

Oh God our heavenly father, renew in us the sense of Thy gracious Presence, and let it be a constant impulse within us to peace, trustfulness, and courage on our pilgrimage. Let us hold Thee fast with a loving and adoring heart, and let our affections be fixed on Thee, that so the unbroken communion of our hearts with Thee may accompany us whatsoever we do, through life and in death. Teach us to pray heartily; to listen for Thy voice within, and never to stifle its warnings. Behold, we bring our poor hearts as a sacrifice unto Thee: come and fill Thy sanctuary, and suffer nought impure to enter there. O Thou Who art Love, let Thy Divine Spirit flow like a river through our whole souls, and lead us in the right way till we pass by a peaceful death into the Land of Promise—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

While we poor wayfarers still toil, with hot and bleeding feet, along the highway and the dust of life, our companions have but mounted the divergent path, to explore the more sacred streams, and visit the diviner vales, and wander amid the everlasting Alps, of God's upper province of creation.

And so we keep up the courage of our hearts, and refresh ourselves with the memories of love, and travel forward in the ways of duty,

with less weary step, feeling ever for the hand of God, and listening for the domestic voices of the immortals whose happy welcome waits us.

Death, in short, under the Christian aspect, is but God's method of colonization; the transition from this mother-country of our race to the fairer and newer world of our emigration. (SOURCE:20)

Morning Prayer for a Blessed End. O Merciful God, Thou hast put a limit to man's life, which no man can set aside. For he has his definite time, the number of his months rests with Thee. Thou hast numbered all our days, which pass away like a stream, as though we flew away. Man is like grass, which soon withereth, like the flower of the field, which passeth away.

Teach me, O merciful God, to know and take to heart, that I, too, must pass away and that my life has a limit, and I must go hence. Behold, my days are as a handbreadth before Thee, and my life as nothing in Thy sight.

Every man at his best is altogether vanity. Lord, so teach us to number our days, what it is, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Lord, teach me to remember that I must die, and have no continuing city in this pilgrimage. Make known unto me my short and transient being, that I may often think of my end, so that in this world I may not live unto myself, but live and die unto Thee, so that I may bravely and joyously await the day of my translation and the appearance of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, and with a consecrated life and a pious conduct hasten to Him.

Bless me, O God, with a blessed departure, and when my hour cometh, that I may joyously die, find a rational end in true knowledge, and that my reason and intellect be not deranged, and I speak no arrogant words or blasphemies against Thee, my Lord, or against my salvation. Preserve me from an evil sudden death and from eternal damnation. Let me not be suddenly overcome by my last hour without warning, but that I may prepare myself with true repentance and sincere faith. And when it comes make me joyous

and brave for my temporal death, which only opens the door to the eternal life. May I then, as Thy servant, depart in peace. For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel. Grant that my last word may be that which Thy dear Son spoke on the cross, "Father, into Thy hands do I commend My spirit!" And when I can no longer speak, hear Thou my last sigh through Jesus Christ. Amen. (SOURCE:6)

O LORD, blessed be this Thy word: I have received the cross, I have received it from Thy hand: and I will bear it until death, as Thou hast laid it upon me. It is more sweet to my mouth than honey, and the honeycomb.

WHAT should I do in my so great tribulations and anguish, if Thou didst not encourage me with Thy holy words?

WHAT matter is it how much or what I suffer, so I come at length to the haven of salvation?

GRANT me a good end, grant me a happy passage out of this world; be ever mindful of me, O my God, and direct me in the right path to Thy kingdom. Amen. (SOURCE:10)

Prayer of a Voyager in a Storm. O GOD ALMIGHTY, Thou God of the righteous, who hast made the sea and the dry land and hast all things in Thy hand, Thou didst give rise to the storm which raises such billows that our vessel is now borne aloft towards the heavens, now down again into the depths, and one reels to and fro like a drunken man and is at his wit's end,— to use the words of inspiration—in such danger and distress we now are on this voyage. But since Thou hast said, "Call upon me in the day of trouble and I will deliver Thee," we in this great need, from which no creature can deliver us, but Thou alone, hold out to Thee Thy word with believing hearts, and pray Thee, according to Thy mercy, to show forth Thine almighty power, rebuke the wind and the sea, and let there be a great calm.

Graciously preserve us, we beseech Thee, from harm and shipwreck, hold Thy gracious hand over us and mercifully deliver us from this danger. We shall then bless Thy name all the days of our lives, ever be mindful of this Thy signal help and amend our lives to accord with Thy holy word. O Lord God, be merciful unto us and forgive our sins for Christ Jesus' sake. O help us or we perish! O Lord, deliver us for Thy mercy's sake! But if Thou hast decreed that our life is to end here, then grant us Christian patience, keep us in true faith, and give us the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls. Lord, be Thou with us, forsake us not.

Thou canst deliver from death; Thou canst also deliver us from this danger. O hear us, hear us, hear us, Lord God Father, for Jesus Christ's sake! Hear us, O Lord Jesus for the sake of Thy holy five wounds! Hear us Lord God, Holy Ghost, for the sake of Thy mercy and grace! Help us, Lord God, Father; help us, Lord God, Son; help us Lord God, Holy Ghost, for Thine own self's sake, for the honor of Thy name's sake, and for Thine infinite mercy's sake. Amen. (SOURCE:3)

IN TIME OF RAIN. WE thank Thee, Lord, for the glory of the late days and the excellent face of thy sun. We thank Thee for good news received. We thank Thee for the pleasures we have enjoyed and for those we have been able to confer. And now, when the clouds gather and the rain impends over the forest and our house, permit us not to be cast down; let us not lose the savour of past mercies and past pleasures; but, like the voice of a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memory survive in the hour of darkness.

If there be in front of us any painful duty, strengthen us with the grace of courage; if any act of mercy, teach us tenderness and patience. (SOURCE:18)

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, who, when troubled with the things that are past, lose faith, and life, and courage, and hope. So have mercy upon us, and uphold us, that we, being sustained by a true faith that Thou art merciful and forgiving, may go on in the

life of the future to keep Thy commandments, to rejoice in Thy bounty, to trust in Thy mercy, and to hope in the eternal life. Grant unto all of us, whatsoever may betide us, to remember ever that it is all of Thy guidance, under Thy care, by Thy will; that so, in darkest days, beholding Thee we may have courage to go on, faith to endure, patience to bear, and hopefulness to hold out, even unto the end—Amen. (SOURCE:21)

Lord, all my desire is before Thee; and my groaning is not hid from Thee. Yea, my God, my groaning is not hid from Thee, and my misery and distress are well known to Thee. This is my consolation, that I know my affliction comes from Thy hands. I have not brought it on myself; Thou hast laid it upon me.

But since this is the case, do Thou help me to bear it. And as patience is one of Thy good gifts which come down from above, O Father of lights, grant it to me according to Thy loving-kindness. If Thou dost strengthen and help and sustain me, then I can bear and endure all. I can do all things through Christ that strengthenest me. Let not my burden become too heavy for me nor the trial too great. Have patience with my weakness; strengthen the weary hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to my trembling heart: "Thy God is King, thy Jesus is with thee, thy King Cometh to thee with a recompense; He will come and save thee." If Thou dost help me, I am helped indeed.

Therefore help me, O my Saviour, for Thy name's sake. I seek refuge in Thee. Let me recognize it as Thy holy will that I should suffer as I do, and have my cross to bear; so that I may bear it cheerfully, and say: Father, not my will but Thine be done. Give me the assurance that amid all my affliction and sorrow Thou still lovest me; that my sufferings shall endure for a short season only and not forever; yea, that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us. Help me to bear in mind, that Thou art my gracious God and loving Father, and that my cross is not a sign of Thy wrath but of Thy love. Convince

me of its beneficent purpose by drawing me closer to Thee.

O Lord, hold up before my soul the example of my dear Saviour Jesus Christ, who patiently endured all things, and, like a lamb before its shearers, opened not His mouth. Give me grace to follow the example of His meekness and submission. Grant that I may suffer with Him, that I may also be glorified together with Him. Let not my cross drive Thy Word from my heart, nor weaken my faith, nor hinder my prayers; but give me new strength and new courage whenever I must weather a new storm or have just passed through one. Yea, assure me that Thou wilt soon come to my rescue, and wilt certainly help and sustain me. Amen. (SOURCE:11)

Thy protecting Presence surrounding us, Thine all-seeing eye fixed upon us, Thy Divine heart yearning over us, that we may cease to tremble at man's anger, or shrink from man's ridicule; but may with a good courage perform the work Thou givest us to do, and after we have suffered may enter into rest —Amen. (SOURCE:22)

Meditation: Character and action are both essential in a harmonious life. I RECALL what Jesus said, "You must be born again" —that is His inexorable demand for the background of character. "If ye love me, keep my commandments"— that is His absolute insistence on the foreground of action. And the power of both of them—the power by which they both unite into one life—lies in the personal love and service of Himself.

This is the largest and richest education of a human nature—not an instruction, not a commandment, but a Friend. It is not God's truth, it is not God's law—it is God that is the salvation of the world. It is not Christianity, it is not the Christian religion, it is Christ who has done for us, who is doing for us every day, that which our souls require.

What has He done for you, my friend? First, He has made you a new creature in Himself. He has given you a new character; and then He has guided you and ruled you, making you do new, good, holy



actions in obedience to Him. Not two blessings, not two salvations—only one!

This is His promise to the soul which He invites, “Come, give yourself to me and you shall be new and do new things; you shall have opened within you the fullness of new admirations, new judgments, new standards, new thoughts —everything which makes new character; and there shall be new power for the daily task, new clearness, new skill in the things which every day brings to be done.” The background and the foreground! “This ought ye to have done and not to leave the other undone”—the full, harmonious picture of a life! (SOURCE:12)

Prayers of Submission in Chastisement. “My Father, I have sinned against heaven and in Thy sight.” I know my duty to Thee, but my heart fails to fulfil it. If Thou shouldst allow me to fix my own punishment, I should flatter and spare myself, and should be deceived in so doing. But Thy gracious hand executes that which I should not have the courage to inflict. It chastises me in love. Grant that I may bear with patience these salutary blows; for what less can a sinner do than to receive meekly the chastisement which he would not have the courage to choose ? Yea, I thank Thee, O God, for all things; for afflictions as well as for benefits, for afflictions become benefits when Thou bestowest them. I would no longer murmur at the dispensations of Thy providence, but I would adore its wisdom. I recognize Thy will, O Lord, as fulfilled in the motions of the stars, in the order of the seasons, and in the events of life. Let that will be accomplished also in me: let it be my delight, let it sweeten every trial. May my own will be annihilated, that Thine may reign in me; for it is Thine, O Lord, to will, and mine to obey. (SOURCE:26)

GRANT unto us, Almighty God, the peace that passeth understanding, that we, amid the storms and troubles of this our life, may rest in Thee, knowing that all things are in Thee, not beneath Thine eye only, but under Thy care, governed by Thy will, guarded by Thy love, so that with a quiet heart we may see the storms of

life, the cloud and the thick darkness, ever rejoicing to know that the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee. Guide, guard, and govern us even to the end, that none of us may fail to lay hold upon the immortal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (SOURCE:12)

O LORD, our God, keep us from all darkness except such as our own foolishness brings over us. Let us remember that there is no darkness with Thee. Let us have but one thing to be afraid of—the death of the spirit. Let there be but one thing that we shrink from—unlovingness towards Thee and our brother. And when the storm is loud, and the night is dark, and the soul is sad, and the heart oppressed; then, as weary travelers, may we look to Thee; and beholding the light of Thy love, may it bear us on, until we learn to sing Thy song in the night. And when the last chill stream of death shall be crossed, grant that ours may be the Delectable Mountains, the company of faithful souls, the eternal years, the everlasting life. Of Thy great mercy hear our supplications, through Jesus Christ our Lord—Amen. (SOURCE:14)

Prayer in View of an Undertaking of Moment. O LORD, Thou doest great deeds that cannot be fathomed, and miracles that cannot be counted; Thy strength is made perfect in weakness. I call upon Thee, O most High, to give success to my efforts and graciously to aid me in completing this undertaking that I have begun in full reliance on Thee.

Lord God, strengthen me in this hour and forsake not Thy servant, who places all his hope in Thee, and without Thee can do nothing. Provide me with strength from on high, and give me of the wisdom that is perpetually about Thy throne, that it may be with me and assist me in my work. And since all depends on Thy divine blessing, I now pray Thee, O my God, remember me in Thy rich mercy and bless all I do or leave undone, that I may begin all my undertakings prudently and bring them to a happy issue. In every enterprise Lord, counsel me, advise; Speed all my work; in favor and blessing crown

my labor.

TO THEE I commit my going-out and my coming in; to Thee I will thankfully ascribe all praise for the success of my undertaking. Amen. In Jesus' name. Amen. (SOURCE:11)

A Prayer for the Proper Performance of One's Duties. O MERCIFUL And faithful God, Thou hast ordained that each person should have a certain calling and faithfully attend to it. Now Thou seest and knowest my responsibilities, O Lord, and that without Thy grace, strength and blessing I am not able to do anything whatever; thou also knowest my manifold shortcomings.

And, therefore, I earnestly pray Thee, do Thou bestow upon me wisdom and strength, together with a courageous and fearless spirit, so that I may act prudently, overcome all obstacles that arise and attain to a blessed and desired end by Thy fatherly guidance. My hope rests in Thee, O my God, let me not be confounded, nor let mine enemies rejoice over me; but no one will be forsaken that waiteth on the Lord. O show me Thy ways, and teach me Thy paths, for Thou art the God of my help, daily do I wait on Thee. Preserve my soul, save me and lend Thine aid to all that concerns my welfare. Let me not be confounded, for I trust in Thee. O Lord, my God and my deliverer, be not far from me; hasten, O Lord, to succor me! Amen. (SOURCE:3)

Almighty God, we bless and praise Thee that we have wakened to the light of another earthly day; and now we will think of what a day should be. Our days are Thine, let them be spent for Thee. Our days are few, let them be spent with care. There are dark days behind us, forgive their sinfulness; there may be dark days before us, strengthen us for their trials. We pray Thee to shine on this day—the day which we may call our own. Lord, we go to our daily work; help us to take pleasure therein. Show us clearly what our duty is; help us to be faithful in doing it.

Let all we do be well done, fit for Thine eye to see. Give us strength to do, patience to bear; let our courage never fail. When we cannot

love our work, let us think of it as Thy task; and, by our true love to Thee, make unlovely things shine in the light of Thy great love—Amen. (SOURCE:22)

## SOURCES

- (1)Albert Barnes Prayers for the Use of Families: Chiefly Selected from Various Authors ; with a Preliminary Essay, 1833. Not in copyright. Free download archive.org <https://archive.org/details/prayersforusefa02barngo>
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Chapter 3 tells you how to make a preview of your book.

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